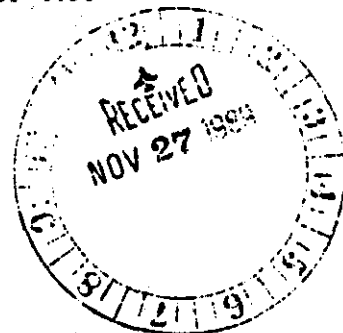


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Reagent Chemical & Research, Inc.

124 River Road - Middletown, New Jersey 08846 - (201) 469-0100
November 17, 1989

Acumenics Research & Technology, Inc.
1025 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20036



ATTENTION: 104 (e) TASK

Gentlemen:

On October 23, 1989, we received an October 19, 1989 request of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, concerning Artel Chemical Corporation, West 19th Street, Nitro, West Virginia or its predecessors, The Fike Chemical Corporation and/or Roberts Chemical Company (collectively, "Artel"). We respond to the aforesaid request as follows:

1(a)-(j). Based upon a review of its records, Reagent has determined that it has previously sold to Fike Chemical Company ("Fike") six truck loads of hydrochloric acid ("HCL") on or about November 29, 1983, June 11, 1984, September 4, 1984, November 28, 1984, October 3, 1985, and October 7, 1986. All of the HCL sold to Fike was a commercial product-standard grade HCL-20 Baume. None of the HCL sold to Fike was waste materials for the purpose of disposal or treatment on behalf of Reagent.

Annexed hereto for each of the aforesaid shipments are the following documents: invoice, bill of lading, shipping document, driver's log, and dispatch log. In the case of the latter two shipments, the documents also include a copy of the check from Fike and/or Artel (we have been unable to locate the checks for the earlier shipments).

The enclosed documents set forth the quantity of HCL, the purchase price, and shipping date.

2. We are not currently aware of the identity of or any documents relating to any person other than our company who transported materials to the subject site.

In accordance with the request, we assert a claim of business confidentiality 40 CFR Section 2.203(b) and accordingly each enclosed document is marked "confidential."

Sincerely,

Stephen T. Finney
Stephen T. Finney

STF:jrb

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